

Washington, D.C. - Today, leaders of the **New Democrat Coalition**, led by **Congressman Joseph Crowley (NY-07)**, New Dem Chair, released the following statement in response to President Obama's State of the Union Address:

"Tonight, President Obama reminded us of the challenges Americans are facing daily and called on Congress to join together and work collaboratively to get our economy back on track and put Americans back to work.

"Just one year ago, our nation was on the brink of economic collapse, and this Congress and the Administration took important steps to control the downward spiral and stabilize our economy. But more needs to be done. We need to support long-term sustainable growth, encourage innovation, and ensure American businesses and workers can compete globally.

"President Obama also rightly called on Congress to help him reign in spending and start balancing the Federal government's checkbook. For nearly a decade excessive spending caused our nation's debt to grow from \$5.7 trillion in 2001 to \$10.6 trillion in 2009. The New Dems agree with President Obama that America can no longer afford the economic policies of debt and deficit, and we are dedicated to working with him to enact policies focused on rebuilding our economy and bringing prosperity back to American workers, families and businesses."

Statement supported by the New Democrat Coalition Leadership led by Chair Representative Joseph Crowley (NY-07), and Vice-Chairs Representative Melissa Bean (IL-08), Representative Ron Kind (WI-03), Representative Allyson Schwartz (PA-13), and Representative Adam Smith (WA-09).

The New Democrat Coalition is a Coalition of 67 members of the U.S. House of Representatives who are dedicated to the prosperity and security of American families and business. Founded in 1997, the NDC provides Members of Congress with the opportunity to advance a common sense policy agenda focused on empowering the U.S. to grow economically and maintain a vibrant job market, preserving the U.S. standing as the world's leader in innovation and technological advancement, and strengthening our economic and national security. For more information, visit the New Dems website at <http://ndc.crowley.house.gov>.

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